PATENT SELF-ADJUSTING RULER.—The round common rulers necessarily soil the paper upon which the pen acts, by transferring the ink to it. To obviate this inconvenience, a Mr. Schlesinger has invented a ruler which he very properly calls self-adjusting, in which the revolving part is concealed under a brass barrel, so that the pen slides and leaves the ruler perfectly clean and free from ink. This improvement is so manifest, not only for the advantage it affords in point of cleanliness and the superior accuracy it gives in parallel ruling, but for the speed with which it is used in shading drawings. On the side opposite the brass barrel is a scale for pencil ruling, divided into inches and parts, and true as a parallel ruler.

IMPROVEMENTS IN SUNDERLAND. — The Lords of the Treasury have granted 750*l.*, part of the Parliamentary grant for public walks, &c., to the corporation of Sunderland, in aid of a plan for providing a place of recreation for the inhabitants, the only condition of the grant being, that the ground, when purchased, shall be legally and permanently secured as a place of recreation for the people. It is intended to purchase and lay out Building-hill. The estimated cost is about 3,000*l.*, the remainder of which will be raised by public subscription.

STRASBURG CATHEDRAL. — The *Presse* states that the belfry of the Cathedral of Strasburg has deviated considerably from its perpendicular within a short time, and has inclined more than 6 feet, calculating between the elevation of the summit and the base.

Tenders.

TENDERS delivered for Works proposed to be done at Forest Hill in Alterations and Additions to the House, and in the Erection of a Lodge and Stable, for — Dimmock, Esq.—Mr. Porter, Architect, Bermondsey.

Messrs. King and Co., Islington	£4,320
Mr. Jay, London-wall	4,192
Messrs. Young	4,120
Mr. Plummer	3,970

The quantities collected and supplied to the builders, the tenders opened in their presence.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

For the supply of 6,000 tons of Iron Rails, each rail to be 16 feet in length, and weighing 65 lb. per yard.—H. Parker, Secretary to the Great North of England Railway Company, Darlington. Dec. 23.

For making a Sewer in the Town of Cambridge, to be cylindrical and 2 feet diameter in the clear, length about 385 yards, average depth about 9 feet. —Frederick Randall, Clerk to the Commissioners, Cambridge. Dec. 26.

For the several works in the erection of the East and North Walcot Dispensary, Bath.—Mr. H. E. Goodridge, Architect, 7, Henrietta-street, Bath. December 28.

For the execution of Works necessary for the completion of the whole of the Railway from Shoreham to Chichester, being a distance of about 22½ miles.—Frederick Otley, Secretary, Brighton and Chichester Railway Office, 4, Dean-street, Tooley-street. December 31.

For a supply of Iron Rails and Chairs.—William Taylor, Secretary of the Great Southern and Western Railway, 3, College-green, Dublin. December 31.

For the erection of an Organ in the City Hall of Glasgow, cost not to exceed 1,500*l.*—Mr. G. W. Muir, Glasgow. January 1.

For Re-pewing Leverington Church, near Wisbeach.—The Rev. Henry Jackson, Leverington, or Mr. W. Adams, Architect, Wisbeach. January 7.

For Four Locomotive Engines and Tenders.—George King, 62, Moorgate-street, January 8.

For a Survey Plan and Valuation of the Township of Kimberworth, in Rotherham Yorkshire.—Mr. George Taylor or Mr. Richard Rhodes, Overseers of the Poor. January 8.

For taking down the present Bridge at Carrick-on-Shannon, and constructing a Stone Bridge of five segmental arches, with its approaches; building quays and harbour, forming wharfs, and deepening the bed of the river.—Edward Hornsby, Secretary, Shannon Commissioners' Office, Custom-house, Dublin. January 8, 1845.

For completing the Railway from Bishopstoke to Salisbury.—Alfred Morgan, Secretary, Nine Elms Station, Vauxhall. January 10.

For the erection of the Railway Works between Leeds and Bradford, including fencing, earthwork, masonry, roads, and permanent way.—William Clarke, Secretary, Hunslet-lane Station, Leeds. January 27, 1845.

For the execution of Works on the Chester and Holyhead Railway.—1st. A distance of eight miles, or thereabouts. 2nd. A distance of twenty-two miles, or thereabouts. 3rd. A Tunnel through the promontory of Penmaen Back, near Conway.—George King, Secretary, 62, Moorgate-street. January 29, 1845.

For the supply of 11,000 feet of nine-inch cast-iron Pipes for a new line of Aqueduct to be laid in the Island of Malta.—Vin. Casolani, Collector of Land Revenue, Office of Land Revenue and Public Works, Valletta, Malta. March 31, 1845.

COMPETITIONS.

THE Committee of the Association recently formed in the Metropolis for the Construction of Baths and Wash-houses for the Labouring Classes, are desirous of obtaining Plans and Estimates for the Erection and Fitting-up of the First Establishment. The general basis of the plan can be seen at the Office, No. 3, Crosby-square. The author of the plan considered the best by the Committee will be selected to execute the work.

Plans for an Agricultural College to be erected at Cirencester, to accommodate 200 pupils and 6 tutors. The style is left to the taste of the architect. A Premium of 10 Guineas to the author of the most approved plan.—Robert J. Brown, Esq., Hon. Sec. Cirencester. January 1.

Plans and estimates are required for a Pauper Lunatic Asylum for the County of Somerset; the building to accommodate 300 patients, and to contain two Stories. The Committee of Visiting Magistrates wish it to be of a plain, cheerful character, but will not further fetter the architect by suggesting any particular arrangement as to the interior, its ventilation, warming, or otherwise. The ground selected contains 36 acres.—The Clerk of the Peace, Taunton. A Premium of 100*l.* will be adjudged for the best plan, and 50*l.* for the next best.

The directors of the Manchester and Birmingham Railway Company have offered a premium of 20 Guineas for the best design for Carriages suited for excursion trips and for private parties.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from the following, and are under consideration:—"An Amateur," *on a new Material for making Bricks*—"T. H. Cash," *on Window Glass*—"An Old Subscriber," *on the best Method of Book-keeping for Builders*—"A Subscriber," *on Perforated Zinc*—"A Regular Subscriber," *on the Reading Competition*—"A Subscriber from the First," *on the Various Styles of Architecture*—"T. P.," *on the best form for Pot Kilns for common red-ware*—"W.," *inclosing a sketch of a Chapel lately erected at Byers-green, Durham.*

"Ignis."—*We have not seen either the "Fire Annihilator" or a description of it: the patent, we believe, is only just enrolled.*

"Economy and Improvement."—*The Manchester Corporation cleared upwards of 30,000l. during the past year by supplying the inhabitants with gas. The profits have been, or will be, applied to local purposes.*

The Minutes of Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers have been received.

"A Hereford Builder" *wishes to know where "Vitrious Cloth," and "Jeffery's Patent Marine Glue," can be obtained.*

APPROACHING SALES OF WOOD, &c.

BY AUCTION.

January 7, 1845.—At the Hall of Commerce, Threadneedle-street: 1,225 logs of St. Domingo Mahogany of superior quality and large dimensions.—Thomas Edwards, Broker, 1, Pinner's-hall, Great Winchester-street.

January 17, 1845.—At Garraway's Coffee-house, Cornhill: 10,000 Baltic and Swedish Deals and Battens: 10,000 Colonial Yellow Pine and Spruce Deals.—E. D. Warrington, broker. 15, New City Chambers.

BY TENDER.

Pear, Apple, Plum, and Cherry Trees now growing on the site of Victoria-park, being together 683 Trees.—Particulars of each lot may be had at the Office of Woods and Forests, 2, Whitehall-place, and at Mr. John Greig's, Hackney-wick, who will also shew the trees. December 31.

MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC BODIES

During the ensuing week.

MONDAY, December 23. — *Geographical*, 3, Waterloo-place, 8½ P.M.; *Medical*, Bolt-court, Fleet-street, 8 P.M.

TUESDAY, 24.—*Zoological*, Hanover-square, 8½ P.M.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

HIP TILES to suit slate roofs in colour; Ridges, with plain or rebated joints, roll tops, and vertical ornaments; drains, many sizes, with plain or socket joints; paving in squares, hexagons, octagons, &c., different colours; roofing, in Grecian or Italian styles, other devices also, or plain; conduits, which do not injure pure water; fire-bricks and tiles; clinkers, and out-door paving; sundry wall-coping, garden-borders, chimney-tops; also tubular and other flues of peculiar material. No agent, but a depôt at WHITEFRIARS, and 72, WATER-LANE, FLEET-STREET, LONDON, under Mr. PEAKE'S personal care, to supply genuine TERRO-METALLIC goods at fair prices as per quality.

The TILERIES, TUNSTALL, STAFFORDSHIRE, are near the centre of England, whence boats are sent direct to any inland place; or to the Mersey for the coasts, the colonies and elsewhere.

TO ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, CONTRACTORS, BUILDERS, MASONS, AND PLASTERERS, MERCHANTS, SHIPPERS, AND THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL.

JOHNS and CO.'S PATENT STUCCO CEMENT.—The following are the positive advantages possessed by this Invention over every Cement hitherto introduced:—It will effectually resist Damp. It will never vegetate nor turn green, nor otherwise discolour. It will never crack, blister, nor peel off. It will form a complete Stone casing to any Building covered with it. It so closely resembles Stone that it is impossible to detect it. It never requires either to be painted or coloured. It will keep fresh and good in the cask in any Climate for any number of years. It is the only Cement that can be depended upon for export. It is the only Cement that can be used with confidence by the Seaside. It may be used in the hottest or coldest Climates at any season. It will adhere to any substance, even to Wood, Iron, or Glass. It will carry a larger Proportion of Sand than any other Cement. It matures by age, and becomes perfect when other Cements begin to perish. It may be worked through the Winter, as frost has no effect upon it. It may be used on the Inner Walls of new Houses, which may be papered over or painted directly. Roofs laid or pointed with this Cement will remain undamaged by the severest Storms. Any Plasterer may apply it, the Instructions for use being very clear and distinct. The first cost of this material does not exceed that of the cheapest Cement now in use; but with all the above-named extraordinary and valuable advantages, nothing can approach it in point of economy.

Architects and Builders who have used this Cement have declared that it requires only to be known, to be universally preferred.

Specimens may be seen, and a Prospectus fully describing the Cement and its mode of application, together with a volume of Testimonials from every part of the Kingdom, may be obtained on application to MANN and CO., SOLE AGENTS for the Patentees, 3, Maiden-lane, Queen-street, Cheapside, London: of whom also may be had,

JOHNS and CO.'S PATENT STONE-COLOUR STUCCO PAINT, expressly intended for Painting over exterior Walls of Houses that have been covered with Roman or other Cements, and which have become dirty and discoloured. It is in every way better suited for this purpose than White Lead Paint, which will frequently come off in flakes, being in direct chemical opposition with Cement; whereas MESSRS. JOHNS and CO.'S PATENT PAINT having an affinity for Stucco, binds itself with it, stopping the suction, thereby rendering the wall proof against weather, and in the finish producing a pure stone-like effect, produceable by no other Paint whatever. It is cheap in its application,—and may be used by any Painter, in any climate, even in the most exposed Marine situations.

SEYSSEL ASPHALTE COMPANY.

"CLARIDGE'S PATENT,"

ESTABLISHED 1838.

THIS ASPHALTE is a Bituminous Limestone, obtained from an inexhaustible Mine at Pyrimont, in the Jura Mountains.

Previously to its introduction into this country, in 1838, the Material had been used for many years in France, and from its great utility was extensively patronised by the Government of that Country.

Among the various uses to which it can be applied, the following may be enumerated:—For Foot-Pavements, public and others; in the Carriage Approach to Mansions, Gardenwalks, and Terraces; the flooring of Kitchens and other basement offices; also of Coach Houses and Stables, Dog Kennels, Barn Floors, Cow Houses, Piggeries, Poultry Houses, Tan Rooms, and Maltings. For Roofing, Covering of Railroad and other Arches, the Lining of underground Cellars near Rivers to prevent the ingress of the Tides; also in Covering the ground-line of Walls, to prevent damp rising (this application of the Asphalte of Seyssel is particularly recommended by the Commissioners on the Fine Arts), thereby rendering the basement stories in the worst situations both dry and warm. It is an excellent Cement, as, applied to Docks, Breakwaters, or Walls built for resistance to the encroachments of the Sea. For lining of Tanks, Fish-Ponds, and other Hydraulic purposes.

J. FARRELL, Secretary,
Seyssel Asphalte Company's Works, "Claridge's Patent,"
Stangate Depôt, London.

COMMISSIONERS OF FINE ARTS' REPORT ON THE MEANS OF PREVENTING DAMP IN WALLS.

THE DIRECTORS of the SEYSSEL ASPHALTE COMPANY have much pleasure in recommending to the notice of Architects, Builders, and others, the application of THE ASPHALTE OF SEYSSEL as the only effectual means of preventing DAMP rising in WALLS.

The following account of its application is extracted from "The Appendix to the Commissioners of Fine Arts' Report," page 18.

"In 1839 I superintended the construction of a house of three stories on the Lac d'Enghien. The foundation of the building is constantly in water, about 19½ inches below the level of the ground-floor. The entire horizontal surface of the external and internal walls was covered, at the level of the internal ground-floor, with a layer of Seyssel Asphalte, less than half an inch thick, over which coarse sand was spread.

"Since the above date no trace of damp has shewn itself round the walls of the lower story, which are for the most part painted in oil of a gray stone colour. It is well known that the least moisture produces round spots, darker or lighter, on walls so painted. Yet the pavement of the floor, resting on the soil itself, is only about 7½ inches above the external surface of the soil, and only 19½, at the utmost, above that of the sheet of water.

"The layer of Asphalte having been broken and removed, for the purpose of inserting the sills of two doors, spots indicating the presence of damp have been since remarked at the base of the door-posts."

For more Information on OCR and PDF Compression visit: TheFutureOfficeOrg